

Please amend the claims as follow:

1. (Previously Cancelled)
2. (Previously Cancelled)
3. (Previously Cancelled)
4. (Previously Cancelled)
5. (Previously Cancelled)
6. (Previously Cancelled)
7. (Previously Cancelled)
8. (Previously Cancelled)
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10. (Previously Cancelled)
11. (Previously Cancelled)
12. (Previously Cancelled)
13. (Previously Cancelled)
14. (Previously Cancelled)
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17. (Previously Cancelled)
18. (Previously Cancelled)
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25. (Previously Cancelled)

26. (Previously Cancelled)

27. (Previously Cancelled)

28. (Previously Cancelled)

29. (Previously Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A method of decontaminating a structure contaminated by ~~pathogenic microorganisms~~ Bacillus anthracis comprising the steps of:

(a) substantially sealing a contaminated structure sufficiently to enable retention of a predetermined concentration of methyl bromide gas;

(b) introducing methyl bromide gas into the substantially sealed contaminated structure to a concentration of methyl bromide in an amount sufficient to deactivate said ~~pathogenic microorganisms~~ Bacillus anthracis and disable germination of ~~pathogenic bacteria~~ Bacillus anthracis spores;

(c) maintaining said substantially sealed contaminated structure with said concentration of methyl bromide for a sufficient period of time to deactivate said ~~pathogenic microorganisms~~ Bacillus anthracis and to disable germination of said ~~pathogenic bacteria~~ Bacillus anthracis spores associated with said contaminated structure;

(d) wherein the concentration of methyl bromide gas and period of time are inversely varied while providing a sufficient gas concentration to disable germination of

said ~~pathogenic bacteria~~ Bacillus anthracis spores associated with said contaminated structure; and

(e) wherein a baseline concentration of methyl bromide gas is approximately 80mg/liter, and a baseline period of time is 48 hours.

31. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the ambient humidity within the contaminated structure is approximately 21%.

32. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the ambient humidity within the contaminated structure is between 21% and 100%.

33. (Previously Cancelled)

34. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the concentration of methyl bromide gas is approximately 60ml/liter, and the sufficient period of time is approximately 72 hours.

35. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the concentration of methyl bromide gas is approximately 40ml/liter, and the sufficient period of time is approximately 96 hours.

36. (Previously Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the concentration of methyl bromide gas is approximately 160ml/liter, and the sufficient period of time is approximately 24 hours.

37. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein the ambient humidity within the contaminated structure is between 21% and 100%.

38. (Previously Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) A method of decontaminating a structure

contaminated by ~~pathogenic microorganisms~~ Bacillus anthracis and associated Bacillus anthracis spores comprising the steps of:

(a) substantially sealing a contaminated structure sufficiently to enable retention of a predetermined concentration of methyl bromide gas;

(b) introducing methyl bromide gas into the substantially sealed contaminated structure to a concentration of methyl bromide in an amount sufficient to deactivate said ~~pathogenic microorganisms~~ Bacillus anthracis and disable germination of ~~pathogenic~~ bacteria Bacillus anthracis spores;

(c) maintaining said substantially sealed contaminated structure with said concentration of methyl bromide for a sufficient period of time to deactivate said ~~pathogenic microorganisms~~ Bacillus anthracis and to disable germination of said ~~pathogenic bacteria~~ Bacillus anthracis spores associated with said contaminated structure;

(d) wherein temperature is kept at approximately 37°C, the concentration of methyl bromide is approximately 80 mg/l and above, and an exposure time is approximately 48 hours.